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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Koji SUMITOMO

Art Unit : 2627

Serial No. : 10/532,803

Examiner : Allen J. HEINZ

Filing Date: April 25, 2005

Title : MAGNETIC RECORDER/REPRODUCER

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Customer Window
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Randolph Building
401 Dulany St.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 8, 2006, applicant hereby provisionally elects, with traverse, Species I, Figure 1, for initial examination in this application. Claims 1, 2 and 3 read on the elected Species. No claim is generic to all Species.

Applicant respectfully traverses the election requirement since all Species are sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for Species I, should encompass a thorough and complete search for all Species I-III. Thus, search and examination of all Species herein could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits." This policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement and examination of all Species herein are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 26, 2006

RWP/lmw

Attorney Docket No.: 28951.5386

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